

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Ayako NAKANO et al. ) Group Art Unit: **Not Yet Assigned**  
Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned** ) Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**  
Filed: **April 14, 2004** )  
For: **PATTERN FORMING METHOD AND** )  
**SYSTEM, AND METHOD OF** )  
**MANUFACTURING A SEMICONDUCTOR** )  
**DEVICE** )

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. With exception of the U.S. patents, a copy of the listed document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application Kokai Publication No. 2002-131882 - The relevance of this document is discussed at pages 4, 5, and 7 of the specification of the present application. Also an English language abstract of this document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

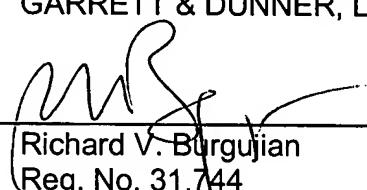
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 14, 2004

By:

  
Richard V. Burgulian  
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Enclosures  
RVB/FPD/sci

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04329.3304	Serial No.	Not Yet Assigned
Applicants	Ayako NAKANO et al.		
Filing Date	April 14, 2004	Group:	Not Yet Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	6,570,174 B1	05/27/03	TOUNAI et al.			
	6,399,260 B1	06/04/02	KIKUCHI			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
	2002-131882	05/09/02	JAPAN			ABSTRACT

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
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\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.